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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/746,120	12/22/2000	Mohanasundaram Chinnappan	020431.0754	4237

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EXAMINER

MYHRE, JAMES W

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3622

DATE MAILED: 01/06/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/746,120

Applicant(s)

CHINNAPPAN ET AL.

Examiner

James W Myhre

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 November 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-7, 19-28, 31 and 32 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 8-18, 29 and 30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 20041004.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. The After-Final Amendment filed on November 17, 2004 under 37 CFR 1.116 is sufficient to overcome the 35 U.S.C. 102 rejection over the Riordan et al (6,078,891) reference. The amendment officially elected Group II from the previous restriction; withdrew the non-elected claims 1-7, 19-28, 31, and 32; and amended Claims 8, 29, and 30. The currently pending claims considered below are Claims 8-18, 29, and 30.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

2. The amendment filed on November 17, 2004 added technological subject matter to the claims; thus, overcoming the rejection of Claims 8-18, 29, and 30 in paragraph 4 of the September 13, 2004 Office Action. Therefore, the Examiner hereby withdraws that rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The amendment filed on November 17, 2004 overcame the rejection of Claims 8-18, 29 and 30 in paragraph 7 of the September 13, 2004 Office Action. Therefore, the Examiner hereby withdraws that rejection.

Double Patenting

4. The amendment filed on November 17, 2004 overcame the objection to Claim 29 as being a duplicate of Claim 9 by adding a new limitation to Claim 29. Therefore, the Examiner hereby withdraws that objection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 8-18, 29, and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Riordan et al(6,078,891).

Claims 8, 9, and 29: Riordan discloses a method for facilitating a commercial transaction involving a product, comprising:

- a. Communicating a unique identifier for a particular product to a seller (col 4, lines 7-51); and
- b. Specifying to the seller a desired commercial transaction involving the particular product in order to facilitate the desired transaction (col 4, lines 7-51).

Riordan further discloses that the GUID, which he calls a unique identification code (UIDC), identifies at least one product class within a class hierarchy and further identifies the particular product within that product class (col 8, lines 17-61). Riordan also discloses that the database further includes information pertaining to each retailer's

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identification and location (col 10, lines 25-36), thus, disclosing that the directory database pertains to a plurality of sellers and seller databases (Figure 6, item 606).

While Riordan discloses the buyer communicating a product identification code, such as a UPC, to the seller; it is not explicitly disclosed that the product identification code is the UIDC (globally unique identifier – GUID) that is being used by the system to identify the product class, subclass, and product in the Data Warehouse 185. However, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the UIDC (GUID) to uniquely identify the products to the buyer also; and, thus, be sent by the buyer to the seller during the normal above transaction. One would have been motivated to use the UIDC (GUID) to identify products not only in the data warehouse, but also in the plurality of seller inventory databases in order to allow each seller to also track and analysis transaction data in a manner similar to Riordan's central data warehouse location.

Riordan further discloses uniquely identifying the seller of the desired product using a repository identifier (RID) which includes the seller's electronic address to further facilitate the transaction (col 4, lines 25-34 and col 10, lines 25-36).

Claim 10: Riordan discloses a method for conducting a commercial transaction as in Claim 9 above, and further discloses the GUID includes the class numbers of every parent product class of the product (col 8, lines 17-61).

Claims 11 and 30: Riordan discloses a method for conducting a commercial transaction as in Claims 8 and 29 above, and further discloses identifying the seller of the particular product according to a repository identifier (RID), which he calls a retailer identification field (col 10, lines 25-36).

Claim 12: Riordan discloses a method for conducting a commercial transaction as in Claim 11 above, and further discloses conducting the transaction online by the customer entering the seller's website address (i.e. electronic address)(col 4, lines 25-34).

Claim 13: Riordan discloses a method for conducting a commercial transaction as in Claim 11 above, and further discloses the electronic address of the seller is stored at the global content directory (col 10, lines 25-36).

Claim 14: Riordan discloses a method for conducting a commercial transaction as in Claim 8 above, and further discloses communicating the buyer's identification to the seller (col 9, lines 47-57).

Claim 15: Riordan discloses a method for conducting a commercial transaction as in Claim 14 above, and further discloses associating the buyer identification with logistical information of the buyer (col 9, lines 47-57).

Claims 16 and 17: Riordan discloses a method for conducting a commercial transaction as in Claim 15 above, and further discloses the buyer information is at the seller or global content directory (col 9, lines 47-57).

Claim 18: Riordan discloses a method for conducting a commercial transaction as in Claim 15 above, and further discloses the buyer information comprises payment or shipping information (col 4, lines 7-51 and col 9, lines 47-57).

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 8-18, 29, and 30 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. The argued feature of communicating the GUID to the seller has been addressed in the new rejection above.

The Applicant's argument against the finality of the previous office action was persuasive. Therefore, the finality of that action is hereby withdrawn.

Conclusion

8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

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extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

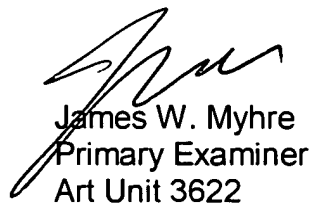
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Exr. James W. Myhre whose telephone number is (703) 308-7843. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Thursday from 6:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Eric Stamber, can be reached on (703) 305-8469. The fax phone number for Formal or Official faxes to Technology Center 3600 is (703) 872-9306. Draft or Informal faxes, which will not be entered in the application, may be submitted directly to the examiner at (703) 746-5544.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group Receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.



JWM
January 4, 2005



James W. Myhre
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3622